

### Scope of Claims

1. A low-density neutral paper characterized by containing as a filler a precipitated calcium carbonate-silica composite wherein a surface of precipitated calcium carbonate particles is covered with silica and a ratio of precipitated calcium carbonate to silica (precipitated calcium carbonate/silica) is 30/70 to 70/30 in solid content by weight.
2. A low-density neutral paper according to Claim 1, characterized in that the low-density neutral paper is any of a printing paper, neutral newsprinting paper, or electrophotographic transfer paper.
3. A low-density neutral paper according to Claim 1, characterized in that the low-density neutral paper is a printing paper or electrophotographic transfer paper containing the precipitated calcium carbonate-silica composite at a filler content in paper of 1 to 25 solid content percent by weight.
4. A low-density neutral paper according to Claim 1, characterized in that the low-density neutral paper is a neutral newsprinting paper containing the precipitated calcium carbonate-silica composite at a filler content in paper of 0.1 to 25 solid content percent by weight.
5. A low-density neutral paper according to any one of Claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the average particle size of the precipitated calcium carbonate-silica composite is 30  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.
6. A low-density neutral paper according to any one of Claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the precipitated calcium carbonate particles used to produce the precipitated calcium carbonate-silica composite are constituted by rosette-calcite precipitated calcium carbonate where spindle-shaped primary particles agglutinate with one another to form secondary particles.